

CHEM DEMIL UPDATE

November 30 – December 22, 2006

FOR THE UTAH CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CHEMICAL DISPOSAL

TOOELE CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY

FACILITY CONTINUES FINAL CHEMICAL DESTRUCTION CAMPAIGN

Mustard processing continued until Dec. 19 when the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF) went into a maintenance outage to prepare for its trial burn scheduled to be conducted in January 2007. The trial burn for the LIC is also scheduled in January. Sampling continues on bulk containers in the Area 10 storage yard. Earlier in December, "mini-burns" were conducted followed by a mercury monitoring test which is technically called the Alternate Monitoring Request (AMR) Relative Accuracy Test Audit (RATA).

As of Dec. 3, TOCDF workers have worked 2, 073,110 hours or 403 days without a lost-time accident.

STATUS OF AGENT DESTRUCTION

As of Dec. 17, a total of 7,726 tons of agent (GB, VX and HD – mustard) have been destroyed at TOCDF, representing nearly 57 percent of agent tonnage and over 89 percent of the number of munitions in the DCD total stockpile.

DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT (DCD)

LEAKING MUSTARD BULK CONTAINER DETECTED IN STORAGE IGLOO

On Dec. 8 and Dec. 13, mustard agent vapor leaking from bulk containers was detected during routine operations in storage igloos at DCD. Depot workers contained the vapor then moved the agent-filled containers to another storage structure where workers in protective clothing using specialized equipment replaced the valves. On Dec. 14, a trace amount of mustard agent leaking from a bulk container was discovered during routine operations in another storage igloo. Workers in protective clothing tightened the leaking plug and decontaminated the agent. The earth covered storage structures were filtered and no vapor escaped to the environment. Tooele county officials were notified and there was no danger to surrounding communities.

RE-USE STUDY CONTRACT AWARDED

On Sept. 25, the Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) awarded a contract to Mitretek Systems, Inc. to assess the feasibility of utilizing the TOCDF and the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS) as a resource for conventional weapons demilitarization after completion of their chemical demilitarization mission as directed by BRAC. Activities on the contract began the first part of October and considerable progress has been made in gathering information needed for the study.

Representatives from Mitretek visited DCD Nov. 14-15 to further discuss the anticipated condition of TOCDF and CAMDS at the end of the closure phase. They also met with officials at Tooele Army Depot (TEAD) to discuss (1) TEAD's conventional munitions mission; (2) environmental

requirements should TOCDF and CAMDS be reused to support the conventional munitions demilitarization mission; and (3) the state of CAMDS, (currently undergoing closure) when closure activities are completed. They gathered information on the inventory of conventional munitions to be demilitarized and the acceptable demilitarization technologies and obtained cost information on conventional munitions demilitarization operations. The study is scheduled to be completed by the end of February 2007.

SAFETY STAND DOWN DAY

DCD safety personnel hosted a safety stand down day on Dec. 11. Presentations during the half-day event included Behavioral Based Safety Assessment Accident Injury Trending, Cold Weather Stress, National Incident Management System and Medical Surveillance Program on Mustard Agent.

CHEMICAL AGENT MUNITIONS DISPOSAL SYSTEM (CAMDS)

CLOSURE ACTIVITIES BEGIN AT DEPOT'S FORMER RESEARCH FACILITY

U.S. Army Chemical Material Agency (CMA) officials addressed depot workers on Nov. 14 at a town hall meeting to inform the workforce of the revised CAMDS closure work schedule and the planned path forward. CMA, located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., is DCD's higher headquarters.

Closure efforts initially began at CAMDS in June 2006. Since the 1970's, the CAMDS facility has served as the primary test and development facility for the nation's chemical agent destruction program.

"We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to these workers who, over the life of the facility, have made great contributions to our nation and were instrumental in the research and development of chemical demilitarization technologies currently in use throughout the nation," said Gregory St. Pierre, acting director of operations at CMA. "Their legacy is one we can all be proud of."

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) a federal government agency will conduct, with CAMDS work force assistance, the closure of CAMDS. TVA has successfully helped close the Rocky Mountain Arsenal outside Denver, and recently completed the closure of the former VX nerve agent production facility at the Newport Chemical Depot, Ind. Officials at CMA believe that using TVA's current knowledge, expertise and resources will be of benefit to the closure process and will be of assistance in safely closing this facility which has played such an important role in the safe and environmentally compliant destruction of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile.

TVA is mobilizing a work force of 15 personnel in the CAMDS area. The team is bringing in equipment and facilities such as a change-house, office space, a laboratory and mobile monitoring trailer. The TVA will assist with the closure of CAMDS by removing equipment that is no longer needed. Their staff will increase to approximately 35 when work on the project begins late January or early February 2007. They will bring in their own inventory of protective equipment but will use DCD laundry services.

Removal of facility equipment will be completed by FY 2009 with complete demolition of CAMDS facilities scheduled for second quarter FY 2009.

CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY (CMA)

PROGRAM SITE STATUS

- **Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ABCDF) – Md.**
Final demolition of the Process Neutralization Building (PNB) began on Oct. 30. Removal of the PNB is more than 99.8 complete with final removal of the metal building, filter housings and stacks. Only slab remains for final demolition. Demolition work in the Ton Container Cleanout (TCC) area has been completed. The Army expects to complete all closure field work at ABCDF by summer 2007. All HD mustard bulk containers (1,817) have been drained and neutralized.
- **Anniston Chemical Disposal Facility (ANCDF) – Ala.**
VX processing continues. It had been suspended earlier to clean out debris from the Deactivation Furnace (DFS) rotary kiln and kicker chute. Earlier, VX agent trial burns for the LIC and DFS and the MPF VX Secondary Waste test were completed. Workers have destroyed more than 18,000 VX-filled M55 rockets since July 2006. As of Dec. 17, a total of 527 tons of agent has been destroyed, more than 23 percent of the local stockpile. The ANCDF will destroy GB, VX and HD munitions including rockets, projectiles, land mines, mortars and bulk containers.
- **Blue Grass Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) – Ky.**
Groundbreaking ceremonies were held in October. Preliminary work continues on an access road and fencing. It was reported at the Dec. 12 Kentucky CAC meeting that the Department of Defense (DoD) no longer wants to conduct on-site super-critical water oxidation (SCWO) of the hazardous material that will result from neutralization of the chemical agents in the rockets, bombs, land mines and artillery shells stored at the depot. CAC members were told that DoD has concluded that it can save up to \$150 million annually by shipping chemically neutralized nerve agent to another site for secondary treatment which is now under study. There was also a late November announcement by the Pentagon that the military will recommend to Congress a delay in the program that would save money each year but end up costing at least 30 percent more by extending the life of the project by eight years or more. The plant will destroy a stockpile of chemical weapons containing 523 tons of mustard and nerve agents.
- **Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (NECDF) – Ind.**
A decision whether to ship VX hydrolysate is still pending. Earlier, the Centers for Disease Control issued its report about safe transportation of VX hydrolysate to the DuPont facility in New Jersey. On Dec. 21, environmental groups including the Chemical Weapons Working Group file a federal lawsuit opposing the proposed hydrolysate shipment by the Army. As of Dec. 17, 444 tons of agent has been neutralized, representing over 34 percent of the local stockpile. NECDF is neutralizing VX agent stored in bulk containers.
- **Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) – Ark.**
M55 GB rocket processing continues. As of Dec. 17, more than 74,000 M55 GB rockets have been safely disposed, 399 tons of GB agent, representing over 10 percent of the local stockpile. The PBCDF will destroy GB, VX and HD munitions including rockets, mines and ton containers (second largest in the national stockpile).
- **Pueblo Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) – Colo.**
Stage one construction continues with parameter fencing and the Defense Access Road completed. Work continues on the Access Control Point including interior finishing of electrical and mechanical equipment with overall completion now at 80 percent, Stage two construction of ancillary buildings is expected to begin in FY07. No decision has been announced regarding treatment of hydrolysate from the neutralization process either on or off

site. A decision is expected early next year. The PCAPP will destroy HD projectiles and mortars.

- **Umatilla Chemical Disposal Facility (UMCDF) – Ore.**

Workers processing 8-inch GB projectiles expect to be finished later in December 2006. Following 8-inch completion, “changeover” will prepare to destroy 155mm GB projectiles. A secondary waste trial burn is scheduled to occur during this changeover. On Nov. 30, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Elimination of Chemical Weapons Dale Ormond was in Umatilla to discuss CSEPP issues with community leaders. As of Dec. 17, 838 tons of GB agent has been destroyed, approximately 23 percent of the original stockpile

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

Annual Chemical Weapons Convention Conference Concludes; Final Stockpile Destruction Deadlines Extended to 2012

The Eleventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) concluded in The Hague on Dec. 8. The Conference is the principal decision-making organ of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

At its Eleventh Session, the States Parties approved requests for extensions of the final date for the destruction of the declared chemical weapons stockpiles, April 29, 2007. These requests were submitted by five of the six chemical weapons possessor States Parties, including the two major possessor States Parties, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, as well as India, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and another State Party. These States Parties are engaged in destroying over 71,000 metric tons of chemical agents.

The CWC accords the Conference the authority to grant extensions of the April 29, 2007 destruction deadline, and stipulates that each State Party eliminate all of the chemical weapons declared to the OPCW by no later than April 29, 2012.

The Conference's extension decisions specify the following deadlines for complete destruction: India - April 28, 2009; the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya – Dec. 31, 2010; the Russian Federation - April 29, 2012; the United States - April 29, 2012; and another State Party – Dec. 31, 2008.

Thus far, over 16% of the States Parties' declared chemical weapons stockpile has been eliminated under international verification.

The Conference also approved a request by Albania to grant an extension of the intermediate destruction deadlines: 1% of Albania's stockpile is to be destroyed by Jan. 15, 2007, 20% by Jan. 31, 2007, and 45% by Feb. 28, 2007. Albania intends to complete the elimination of its declared stockpile by April 29, 2007.

The Conference welcomed the understanding of both the United States and the Russian Federation that each will host visits to their destruction facilities. These visits will be undertaken by the Executive Council Chairperson or a Vice-Chairperson, a representative from each of the other regional groups, one representative from the other States Parties hosting such visits, and the Director-General of the Technical Secretariat or his representative. Periodically, and starting no later than 2008, each relevant facility will be visited at least once during the extension period. The Conference agreed that these visits shall take place as a means of addressing questions or concerns about a State Party's programme for fulfilling its obligations on chemical weapons destruction within its extended deadline.

The delegations also approved the OPCW's programme and budget for 2007, which includes verification activities to monitor chemical weapons destruction and non-proliferation. The budget also includes major programmes to support States Parties in the complex task of national

implementation, to foster international cooperation in the peaceful uses of chemistry, and to deliver assistance and protection against threatened or actual attacks with chemical weapons. The Conference approved an expenditure of EUR 75 million for 2007 (EUR 75.6 million in 2006), representing a nominal decrease in costs from 2006.

Delegations approved a programme of 200 inspections of relevant industrial facilities worldwide for 2007 (in 2006, 180 industry inspections were conducted), as well as a further 187 projected missions to verify the storage and elimination of chemical weapons and their production facilities. A number of missions will also be undertaken to old or abandoned chemical weapons sites.

Based upon the approved funding and inspection allocation, the OPCW projects to undertake the following inspections of industrial sites: Schedule 1 facilities, 11 inspections in 2007 (2006, 16 inspections); Schedule 2 facilities, 42 inspections in 2007 (2006, 46 inspections); Schedule 3 facilities, 29 inspections in 2007 (2006, 28 inspections); Other Chemical Production Facilities, 118 inspections (2006, 90 inspections).

In its effort to meet the Convention's requirement that every State Party fully and effectively implement the treaty at the national level, the Conference agreed to sustain for a further year the follow-up decision on the implementation of Article VII of the CWC. That decision carried forward the Action Plan on enhancing compliance with Article VII of the Convention. Article VII requires each State Party to enact implementing legislation at the national level, to make any breach of the Convention a crime under the national penal law, and to inform the OPCW of the measures it has taken to implement the Convention. Under this Article, States Parties also pledge to establish a National Authority to liaise between the State Party and the OPCW, while cooperating in the areas of legal assistance, safety, and the environment.

The OPCW has also accorded the Convention's universality the highest priority in order to establish a global ban on chemical weapons. Three years ago, the Conference set the target of reaching universality by its Twelfth Session, 10 years after the entry into force of the Convention. In its current Session, the Conference confirmed that it would review the implementation of the Action Plan on Universality and take any decision it deems necessary, in particular addressing the status of those States not Party whose non-adherence to the Convention is a cause for serious concern.

The Conference decided that it would continue considering options towards the establishment of an Office in Africa until its Twelfth Session in 2007.

During the Conference, H.E. Mr. Alfonso M. Dastis, Permanent Representative of Spain to the OPCW, was unanimously elected as the Chairman of the Eleventh Session of the Conference.

In addition, the Conference elected 21 new members of the 41-member OPCW Executive Council for a 2-year term starting on May 12, 2007. The new members are Cameroon, Ghana, Lesotho, the Sudan, and Tunisia for the African region; China, India, Japan, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, and Saudi Arabia for the Asian region; Bulgaria and the Czech Republic for Eastern Europe; Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico for Latin America and the Caribbean; France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America and for Western European and Other States.

In 2006, 122 of the 181 States Parties were represented by their delegations at the Eleventh Session. In addition, Israel, one of the 8 Signatory States that have signed but not yet ratified the CWC, attended the Conference as an observer. Egypt, Iraq and Lebanon, which have neither signed nor ratified the CWC, also attended as observers.

Representatives of 8 international organisations attended the Conference, including the United Nations, Council of the European Union, the League of Arab States, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the International Organization

for Migration. A further seven chemical industry associations and non-governmental organisations observed the Eleventh Session.

UPCOMING MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND EVENTS

- **Dec. 20, 6:00 p.m.** – Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) class 2 modification request public meeting. The meeting will be held at the Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, 54 S. Main Street in Tooele.
- **Jan. 10, 6:00 p.m.** – Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System RCRA class 2 permit modification request public meeting. The meeting will be held at the Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, 54 S. Main Street in Tooele.
- **Jan. 11, 1 p.m.** – Utah Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste Control Board monthly meeting. The meeting will be held in Room 101 at the Department of Environmental Quality building, 162 N. 1950 W. in Salt Lake City.
- **Jan. 17, 6:00 p.m.** – TOCDF RCRA class 2 modification request public meeting. The meeting will be held at the Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, 54 S. Main Street in Tooele.
- **Jan. 18, 6:30 p.m.** – Utah Citizens' Advisory Commission. The meeting will be held at the Department of Environmental Quality Building, 168 N. 1950 W. in Salt Lake City.

*The Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office will be closed on **Dec. 25** for Christmas, **Jan. 1** for New Year's and **Jan. 15** for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.*